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UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND

Extensions of country programmes

Note by the Executive Director

Summary

The present note contains information on the following: (a) the second one-year extension of the country programme for Lebanon; and (b) the second one-year extension of the country programme for Sudan.

In accordance with established procedures, the Executive Director approves the first one-year extension of a country programme, while requests for extensions for a second year are submitted to the Executive Board for approval.

The Executive Board may wish to approve the second one-year extensions of the country programmes for Lebanon and Sudan, as indicated in the attached table.

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Extensions of UNFPA country programmes for which the approval of the Executive Board is sought

Country	Years covered by original country programme	Year covered by any extension already approved	Year(s) proposed for new extension	Extension		Reason and explanation		
				2nd one year	Two years	United Nations harmonization	In-country political development	Other
Lebanon	2002-2006	2007	2008	X		The outbreak of war in July 2006 and its aftermath, as well as subsequent domestic political unrest, have prevented the United Nations country team from completing the common country assessment (CCA) and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF). A second one-year extension of the country programme is therefore necessary. The United Nations country team in Lebanon and the principle national counterpart (the Council for Development and Reconstruction) are seeking to harmonize their programmes, both for a post-conflict recovery and reform programme in 2007, and for an additional bridging year, 2008, which will lead to the development of a new CCA/UNDAF. The new UNDAF will cover the period 2009-2013.	Several key events in 2006 affected programme development. These included: (a) military operations, which had an impact on the economy of the country and on social life; (b) the deployment of peacekeeping troops; and (c) political developments. These events led to frequent changes in the composition of the cabinet and to a polarization of the political situation.	UNFPA supports the implementation of the national recovery process that is aligned with government efforts, while developing longer-term strategies for national rebuilding and reconciliation, including supporting the implementation of the government reform agenda and the elaboration of a medium-term to long-term social development strategy. UNFPA implements its assistance in partnership with United Nations organizations, and supports humanitarian response efforts and post-conflict reconstruction.

Extensions of UNFPA country programmes for which the approval of the Executive Board is sought

Country	Years covered by original country programme	Year covered by any extension already approved	Year(s) proposed for new extension	Extension		Reason and explanation		
				2nd one year	Two years	United Nations harmonization	In-country political development	Other
Sudan	2003-2005	2007	2008	X		The next harmonized programme cycle, in which all the United Nations Development Group Executive Committee agencies will participate, will begin in 2009. The extension will enable UNFPA to align its new programme with partner agencies and emerging national priorities.	Achieving sustainable peace and security in Sudan and the implementation of the comprehensive peace agreement have been major challenges in 2006. Political developments and insecurity prevented the country from embarking on a more comprehensive reconstruction process. Insecurity has persisted in Darfur, despite the signing of the Darfur peace agreement in May 2006.	The second one-year extension of the country programme will enable UNFPA to implement projects and activities in response to emerging needs in Sudan. UNFPA continues to be the lead partner with national entities in conducting the national census. In addition, UNFPA maintains its role as lead coordination agency in combating gender-based violence. UNFPA has strengthened its programme operations in Darfur and has also established an office in southern Sudan.